

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method of detecting cancer in a patient comprising:
 - (a) determining the level of podocalyxin and/or endoglycan in a sample from the patient; and
 - (b) comparing the level of podocalyxin and/or endoglycan in the sample to a control sample, wherein increased levels of podocalyxin and/or decreased levels of endoglycan as compared to the control indicates that the patient has cancer.
2. (Original) A method of detecting cancer in a patient according to claim 1 wherein the levels of podocalyxin are determined.
3. (Original) A method of detecting cancer in a patient according to claim 1 wherein the levels of endoglycan are determined.
4. (Original) A method of detecting cancer in a patient according to claim 1 comprising:
 - (a) determining the level of endoglycan and podocalyxin in a sample from the patient; and
 - (b) comparing the ratio of endoglycan to podocalyxin in the sample to a control sample, wherein a decreased ratio as compared to the control indicates that the patient has cancer.
5. (Original) A method according to any one of claims 1-4 wherein the cancer is breast cancer.
6. (Original) A method according to any one of claims 1- 5 wherein determining the level in step (a) comprises determining the amount of nucleic acid molecules.

7. (Original) A method according to claim 6 wherein the nucleic acid molecules are mRNA.

8. (Original) A method according to any one of claims 1-5 wherein determining the level in step (a) comprises determining the amount of protein.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 8 wherein an antibody is used to determine the levels of the protein.

10. (Original) A method of monitoring the progression of cancer in a patient comprising:

(a) determining the level of podocalyxin and/or endoglycan in a sample from the patient;

(b) repeating step (a) at a later point in time and comparing the result of step (a) with the result of step (b) wherein a difference in the level of podocalyxin and/or endoglycan is indicative of the progression of the cancer in the patient.

11. (Original) A method of monitoring the progression of cancer in a patient according to claim 10 comprising:

(a) determining the level of endoglycan and podocalyxin in a sample from the patient; and

(b) repeating step (a) at a later point in time and comparing the result of step (a) with the result of step (b) wherein a difference in the ratio of endoglycan to podocalyxin is indicative of the progression of the cancer in the patient.

12. (Original) A method of determining whether or not a cancer is metastatic in a patient comprising:

(a) detecting the level of podocalyxin and/or endoglycan in a sample from the patient; and

(b) comparing the level of podocalyxin and/or decreased levels of endoglycan in the sample to a control sample, wherein an increased level of podocalyxin and/or decreased levels of endoglycan as compared to the control indicates that the cancer is metastatic.

13. (Original) A method of determining whether or not a cancer is metastatic according to claim 12 in a patient comprising:

(a) detecting the level of endoglycan and podocalyxin in a sample from the patient; and

(b) comparing the ratio of endoglycan to podocalyxin in the sample to a control sample, wherein a decreased ratio of endoglycan to podocalyxin as compared to the control indicates that the cancer is metastatic.

14. (Original) A kit for detecting cancer in a patient comprising (i) reagents for conducting a method according to any one of claims 1-13 and (ii) instructions for its use.

15. (Original) A kit according to claim 14 wherein the reagents comprise nucleic acid primers for amplifying mRNA coding for at least one of endoglycan and podocalyxin in a reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction.

16. (Original) A kit according to claim 14 wherein the reagents comprise antibodies specific to at least one of endoglycan protein and podocalyxin protein.

17. (Original) A use of an effective amount of an agent that modulates podocalyxin or endoglycan in the manufacture of a medicament for modulating cancer cell growth.

18. (Original) A use of an effective amount of podocalyxin antagonist in the manufacture of a medicament for inhibiting cancer cell growth or treating cancer.

19. (Original) A use according to claim 18 wherein the podocalyxin antagonist is an antisense oligonucleotide.

20. (Original) A use according to claim 18 wherein the podocalyxin antagonist is an antibody that binds podocalyxin.

21. (Original) A use of an effective amount of endoglycan agonist in the manufacture of a medicament for inhibiting cancer cell growth or treating cancer.

22. (Original) A use according to claim 21 wherein the endoglycan agonist is a nucleic acid encoding endoglycan or a fragment thereof.

23. (Original) A use according to anyone of claims 17-22 wherein the cancer is breast cancer.

24. (Original) A method for identifying a compound that modulates podocalyxin comprising:

(a) incubating a test compound with podocalyxin or a nucleic acid encoding podocalyxin; and

(b) determining the effect of the compound on podocalyxin activity or expression and comparing with a control, wherein a change in the podocalyxin activity or expression as compared to the control indicates that the test compound modulates podocalyxin.

25. (Original) A method for identifying a compound that modulates endoglycan comprising:

(a) incubating a test compound with endoglycan or a nucleic acid encoding endoglycan; and

(b) determining the effect of the compound on endoglycan activity or expression and comparing with a control, wherein a change in the endoglycan activity or expression as compared to the control indicates that the test compound modulates endoglycan.

26. (Original) A screening assay for identifying an antagonist of podocalyxin comprising the steps of:

- (a) incubating a test substance with podocalyxin; and
- (b) determining whether or not the test substance inhibits podocalyxin activity, function or expression levels.

27. (Original) A screening assay for identifying an agonist of endoglycan comprising the steps of:

- (a) incubating a test substance with endoglycan; and
- (b) determining whether or not the test substance activates endoglycan activity, function or expression levels.

28. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition for use in modulating cancer cell growth comprising an effective amount of a podocalyxin modulator in admixture with a suitable diluent or carrier.

29. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition for use in treating cancer comprising an effective amount of a podocalyxin antagonist in admixture with a suitable diluent or carrier.

30. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition for use in modulating cancer cell growth comprising an effective amount of an endoglycan modulator in admixture with a suitable diluent or carrier.

31. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition for use in treating cancer comprising an effective amount of an endoglycan agonist in admixture with a suitable diluent or carrier.

32. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition for use in modulating cancer cell growth comprising an effective amount of an endoglycan modulator and a podocalyxin modulator in admixture with a suitable diluent or carrier.

33. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition for use in treating cancer comprising an effective amount of an endoglycan agonist and a podocalyxin antagonist in admixture with a suitable diluent or carrier.

34. (New) A method according to claim 12 wherein the cancer is breast cancer.

35. (New) A method according to claim 12 or 34 wherein determining the level in step (a) comprises determining the amount of nucleic acid molecules.

36. (New) A method according to claim 35 wherein the nucleic acid molecules are mRNA.

37. (New) A method according to claim 12 or 34 wherein determining the level in step (a) comprises determining the amount of protein.

38. (New) A method according to claim 37 wherein an antibody is used to determine the levels of the protein.